

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

ONE HUNDRED AND SEVENTH LEGISLATURE

Legislative Document

No. 2253

H. P. 2094 House of Representatives, February 25, 1976

Reported by Mr. Dam from the Joint Select Committee on County Government pursuant to H. P. 1670 and printed under Joint Rules No. 3.

EDWIN H. PERT, Clerk

Filed under Joint Rule 3, pursuant to H. P. 1670.

STATE OF MAINE

IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD NINETEEN HUNDRED
SEVENTY-SIX

AN ACT to Change County Budgets to an Annual Basis.

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine, as follows:

Sec. 1. 30 MRSA § 252, first 4 ¶'s, as last amended by P.L. 1971, c. 380, §§ 1, 2 and 3, are further amended to read:

In order to assess a county tax, county commissioners, prior to December 1st ~~before the convening of the Legislature in each year~~, shall prepare estimates of the sums necessary to defray the expenses which have accrued or may probably accrue for the coming year, including the building and repairing of jails, courthouses and appurtenances, with the debts owed by their counties ~~and file estimates for the succeeding year~~, and after newspaper notice, written notices of which shall be transmitted by registered or certified mail with return receipt requested to the clerk of each municipality in said county and to each member of the Legislature of said county, hold a public hearing thereon in the county, prior to December 20th ~~and the county tax for both said years shall be granted by the Legislature separately at the same session.~~

Such estimates shall be drawn so as to authorize the appropriations to be made to each department or agency of the county government for ~~each the year of the biennium~~. Such estimates shall provide specific amounts for personal services, contractual services, commodities, debt service and capital expenditures. Said estimates shall be made on such forms and in such manner as shall be approved by the State Department of Audit. A copy of such esti-

mate shall be distributed to each municipality in said county and to each member of the legislative delegation of said county, at least 10 days prior to meeting of December 20th.

Copies of such forms shall be transmitted to the county commissioners of each county by the office of the Secretary of State no later than October 10th of each ~~biennium~~ year.

Prior to the convening of the Legislature, the county commissioners of each county shall meet with the respective county legislative delegation to finalize estimates for ~~each the year of the biennium~~.

Sec. 2. 30 MRSA § 253, first ¶, as last amended by P.L. 1971, c. 380, § 4, is further amended to read:

~~Said~~ Such estimates shall be recorded by their clerk in a book. A copy of ~~said~~ such estimates shall be transmitted by registered mail by the county commissioners to each municipality in their respective counties on or before the 20th day of December in ~~the each year prior to convening of the Legislature~~. A copy thereof shall be signed by the chairman of the county commissioners and attested by their clerk, who shall transmit it to the office of the Secretary of State on or before the 20th day of each January ~~in which the Legislature meets~~, together with the county reports for the 2 preceding years, to be by him laid before the Legislature.

Sec. 3. 30 MRSA § 253, 2nd ¶, as enacted by P.L. 1971, c. 386, is amended to read:

Any county which is the recipient of federal revenue sharing funds shall provide for the expenditure of such funds in accordance with the laws and procedures applicable to the expenditure of its own revenue and shall record estimates of the same as provided in this section. ~~All supplemental budgets for all county expenditures shall be submitted to the Secretary of State no later than June 1, 1973 and thereafter on the regular reporting date for estimates~~

Sec. 4. Effective date. This Act shall take effect on January 1, 1977.

STATEMENT OF FACT

The purpose of this Act is to change county budgets from a biennial to an annual basis. This is now possible because of the change to annual legislative sessions.